I still don't really understand what we're getting at here. My question is this: Is the point of LOMED to:

1. Give professional development to Hebrew School teachers- "how to be a more effective teacher"?

AND/OR

2. To improve Jewish Education and meet the needs of synagogues/ Jewish life today.

If the goal is #1, then Lomed is mainly interested in ensuring that  we as teachers state an objective in our lesson plans and prove that students have learned and DEMONSTRATED their understanding of that objective, specifically in three lessons. If this is the case then we should be focusing on teaching techniques and setting explicit objectives. Not on trying to link what we d  does Lomed have to do this? Couldn't any other educational professional development program do that? Why do we need to come together as a coalition of Jewish educators to do this?

If the goal is #2 then that's a totally different story. There are many issues I see Hebrew Schools / synagogue-based education facing today. But I'm not sure that collecting data to prove that we're accomplished such lofty goals as "children are on route to applying Torah learning to daily life" is the best thing... or what we need ? Can we really "prove" that anyway with "data"? And even if we could, do we really want to be focusing on trying to? Are our "proofs" really going to help us improve in the future or really make a difference? I'm really not so sure, but I guess it's too early to tell.

If the goal is both

"children are on route to applying Torah learning to their lives". If we really want to tackle that, then the focus of the initiative changes from ensuring that we have indicators of children's undestanding of specific things to a greater discussion of Jewish education today.

I have to say though, I'm still pretty confused and have mixed feelings about the terminology, the task and the greater purpose of this. I'm not sure if the following little rant belongs under "attitude" but I'm also not sure what "attitude" means ... so here goes :)

**In terms of terminology:**

It took me a while to figure out what exactly they were asking for because the instructions and terminology were not clear to me.

I**n terms of the task:**

 I personally felt for a while like I was missing something or things seemed much more complicated than they really were.

**In terms of the purpose:**

I've been feeling very confused by the purpose of this initiative and not sure it's fitting the needs of our Hebrew school (or others). First of all, it seems like synagogues didn't come forward and say what their needs were. They were given a list of 4 to choose from and then things went from there. Is that right? Because if so, then we're not really addressing a true need of our synagogue/ Hebrew school specifically.  It seems at times like we are really discussing issues that relate

Is this really about a group of consultants coming in and making us state a goal and then ensuring that we stick to it? Because then in that case we don't need to be part of a coalition to do that.